

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 15 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1 and 7 and add new claim 16 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(i) as set forth in the “clean” version set forth below. Entry is respectfully requested. A version with markings to show the changes made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii) is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Amended 1. A method of assay in which a component becomes at least partly bound to a solid body characterised in that an analyte dependent parameter associated with said component is kinetically measured in a direct and continuous manner from a time after the onset of incubation and before the assay reaches a substantially steady state and in that the resulting measured analyte dependent kinetic data is manipulated to quantitatively determine an unknown sample and in that the results of the determination are monitored continuously.

Amended 7. A method as claimed in claim 1 comprising the steps of
(a) calibrating the assay system for x samples, each of known analyte concentration (C_a), by measuring continuously for each sample independently at a plurality of times (t_y) after the onset of incubation the value of said analyte-dependent kinetic data (P_z),

①² (b) for an analyte of unknown concentration (C_b) measuring continuously n independent values of said analyte-dependent parameter (P_d) each at time t_e after the onset of incubation,

(c) combining the data (P_d, t_e) from step (b) with the calibration data (P_z, t_y, C_a) from step (a) to calculate the unknown dose of analyte (C_b) at time t_e .

New 16. A method of assay in which an analyte component of unknown concentration (C_b) becomes at least partly bound to a solid body characterised in that

(a) an analyte dependent parameter (P_d) associated with said component is kinetically measured in a direct and continuous manner from a time after the onset of incubation and before the assay reaches a substantially steady state to obtain n independent values of said analyte-dependent parameter (P_d) each at time t_e after the onset of incubation,

③ (b) data for the assay system for x samples, each of known analyte concentration (C_a), measured continuously for each sample independently at a plurality of times (t_y) after the onset of incubation representing the value of said analyte-dependent kinetic data (P_z), is provided,

(c) the data (P_d, t_e) from step (a) and the calibration data (P_z, t_y, C_a) provided in step (b) are combined to calculate the unknown dose of analyte (C_b) at time t_e , and

(d) the calculated dose is continuously monitored.
